From: Morning Consult
To: lmartin@bakersfieldpd.us
Subject: Morning Consult Tech: Records Show T-Mobile Executives Booked 52 Nights at Trump Hotel While Seeking Merger Approval
Date: Thursday, February 7, 2019 7:15:59 AM

By Morgan Halvorsen

Morning Consult has published the latest edition of its monthly Trump Tracker, showing the president's approval state by state, month over month. See it here, and read our analysis here.

Top Stories

- As the merger deal between T-Mobile US Inc. and Sprint Corp. faces House subcommittee hearings next week, records from the Trump International Hotel show that T-Mobile executives have booked at least 52 nights at the hotel since asking for administration approval of the deal last year, more than previously reported, and that CEO John Legere's room for two nights last month had a rate of $2,246 per night. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-Wash.) have issued letters requesting information about the stays and whether President Donald Trump, who still

owns the hotel but has handed day-to-day control over to his two elder sons, was aware of them. (The Washington Post)

- Twitter Inc. reported that fourth-quarter revenue rose to $908.8 million, up 24 percent from $731.6 million in the year-ago period, capping its first full year of profitability as it reported quarterly profit of $255.3 million, up from $91.1 million during the same time in 2017. The social media platform also reported its daily active user numbers for the first time, saying that 126 million users reflected an increase of 1.6 percent from the previous quarter. (The Wall Street Journal)

- New internal documents from a now-defunct company called CerCareOne show that roughly 250 bounty hunters and related businesses were able to access custom location data from AT&T Inc., T-Mobile and Sprint tens of thousands of times over a period of at least five years, much more extensive than previously reported. Previously, the telecoms companies said the reported abuse of location data were isolated incidents. (Motherboard)

Chart Review

Biggest Public Company? Microsoft. Wait, Apple Again. Amazon? No, Back to Microsoft.
The New York Times

Events Calendar (All Times Local)

02/07/2019

NATE Unite 2019 conference	
Phoenix CIO Executive Leadership Summit	7:30 am
WSJ Tech Health conference	8:00 am
Senate Judiciary Committee hearing to consider the nomination of William P. Barr as U.S. Attorney General	10:00 am

House Energy & Commerce Committee's hearing on the impact of the rollback of net neutrality rules	11:00 am
ITIF's "What's Next for Open Data in the United States?" panel discussion	1:00 pm
Center for Data Innovation's "What's Next for Open Data in the United States?" event	1:00 pm

02/08/2019

Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board's "Countering Terrorism while Protecting Privacy and Civil Liberties: Where do We Stand in 2019?" public forum	10:00 am
TechCrunch's 2nd Annual Winter Party at Galvanize	6:00 pm

02/11/2019

IAB Annual Leadership Meeting	
Brookings Institution's "Smart cities and artificial intelligence" event	10:00 am

02/12/2019

IAB Annual Leadership Meeting	
Charlotte CIO Executive Leadership Summit	7:30 am
ITIF's "Moving America: How Policymakers Can Accelerate Automation in Freight Transportation" panel discussion	10:00 am
IBM Think	3:30 pm
National Insider Threat Special Interest Group Maryland Chapter meeting	9:00 am

02/13/2019

House Energy and Commerce subcommittee hearing on T-Mobile-Sprint merger	10:00 am
IBM Think	6:30 am
The Information's Panel on Hybrid Cloud and Microservices	

at IBM's Think	12:30 pm

02/14/2019

IBM Think	6:30 am
House Judiciary subcommittee hearing on T-Mobile-Sprint merger	10:00 am
FCC February Open Commission Meeting	10:30 am

View full calendar

1 Platform, 12 Countries, 5 Million Interviews

Morning Consult is proud to announce that Brand Intelligence is now global, tracking over 3,000 brands across 12 countries.

General

"I'm moving out of state": How some Uber and Airbnb employees are trying to avoid California income tax
Theodore Schleifer, Recode

2019 will create a lot of millionaires in Silicon Valley. It also means it'll create a lot of ex-Californians.

China threat looms over Senate 5G hearing
Dean DeChiaro, Roll Call

Senators from both parties on Wednesday signaled support for building a fifth-generation wireless network that could enable innovation in telecom, agriculture, and health care sectors but raised concerns that China is already on its way to establishing dominance over the technology.

Key Senator Warns of Dangers of Chinese Investment in 5G Networks
Julian E. Barnes, The New York Times

Senator Richard M. Burr, the head of the Senate Intelligence Committee, warned American corporations on Wednesday that using Chinese technology in next-generation telecommunication networks could pose security risks, but stopped short of endorsing a ban on such equipment that the Trump administration is considering.

GM's incentive plan for Cruise chief points to IPO: SEC filing
Ben Klayman, Reuters

General Motors Co on Wednesday outlined an incentive plan for the head of its self-driving car unit that points the way toward a possible initial public offering for the business.

Stocks Fall and Bonds Gain as Europe Frets Growth: Markets Wrap
Todd White, Bloomberg

U.S. stock-index futures fell with European shares after a mixed session in Asia as signs emerged that the global rally in equities is stalling. Most government bonds climbed in Europe after official growth forecasts were slashed for major economies in the region.

Intellectual Property and Antitrust

Germany blocks Facebook from pooling user data without consent
Olaf Storbeck and Madhumita Murgia, Financial Times

Germany's antitrust watchdog on Thursday blocked Facebook from pooling data collected from Instagram, its other subsidiaries and third-party websites without user consent in a landmark decision on internet privacy rights and competition.

Telecom, Wireless and TV

T-Mobile results beat on higher subscriber additions
Sheila Dang and Akanksha Rana, Reuters

T-Mobile US Inc on Thursday reported quarterly revenue and profit that beat Wall Street estimates, as the wireless carrier added more than expected phone subscribers who pay a monthly bill.

French Senate rejects tougher telecoms controls despite U.S. Huawei warning
Mathieu Rosemain et al., Reuters

The French Senate rejected on Wednesday proposed legislation aimed at toughening checks on telecoms equipment, following a U.S. warning about Chinese telecoms giant Huawei.

Broadband groups cut capital expenditure despite net neutrality win
Kiran Stacey, Financial Times

The big four US broadband companies invested less in capital projects last year than they did in 2017, undermining one of the rationales for a controversial decision by the Trump administration to remove so-called net neutrality protections.

Huawei tells suppliers to move production to China as US ban looms
Lauly Li et al., Financial Times

Huawei Technologies is asking suppliers to move some production to China as it braces for possible restrictions on access to US technology that could starve the Chinese group of components vital to its business.

It's Huawei Versus the U.S. Government at World's Biggest Wireless Event
Stefan Nicola et al., Bloomberg

Huawei Technologies Co., facing a widening global crackdown on its telecom equipment, is bolstering its presence at the industry's biggest conference in an attempt to land deals. Its plans risk being foiled by a powerful foe: the U.S. government.

Mobile Technology and Social Media

WhatsApp deletes 2 million accounts per month to curb fake news
Jon Fingas, engadget

WhatsApp is trying a number of measures to fight its fake news problem, including study grants, a grievance officer and labels on forwarded messages. However, it's also relying on a comparatively old-fashioned approach: outright deleting accounts.

After Scrutiny, Instacart Will End Its Controversial Tipping Policy
Caroline O'Donovan, BuzzFeed News

Instacart will change a controversial tipping policy, the company told BuzzFeed News on Wednesday.

NYPD demands that Google's Waze app stop revealing DWI checkpoints

Todd Haselton, CNBC

The City of New York Police Department recently sent a letter to Google demanding that its navigation app Waze stop showing drivers where the city's DWI checkpoints are located.

Where Will Drug Overdoses Hit Next? Twitter May Offer Clues
Lisa Ward, The Wall Street Journal

The battle against opioid abuse could have a new tool in its arsenal: Twitter. Research indicates that the site provides a quick, reliable snapshot of who's using what drugs and where throughout the country.

Cybersecurity and Privacy

Report: Alleged Chinese spies hacked a large business services firm
Joe Uchill, Axios

A prolific espionage group, which the U.S. government believes is Chinese, compromised billion-dollar business service provider Visma in 2018, according to a report by the threat intelligence firm Recorded Future.

Nest issues cryptic warning - spoiler alert, it's about strangers peeking your cameras
Sean Hollister, The Verge

Today, Google is doing something it should have done weeks or months ago: it's emailing owners of its Nest security cameras that they should really, *really* pick a better password, enable two-factor authentication (2FA), and be vigilant if they don't want strangers to hijack those cameras and peek into their homes over the internet, which has actually been happening in some instances, including a fake nuclear bomb threat that really freaked one family out.

Amazon Recorded Video Of A Seller's Face For Identification Purposes
Leticia Miranda and Ryan Mac, BuzzFeed News

Amazon may be experimenting with a seller verification program in which people record video of their faces to create accounts and sell goods on its site, a sign of the company's deepening investment in the powerful new technology of

facial recognition.

Opinions, Editorials and Perspectives

America's Privacy Abuses - Past, Present and Potentially Future
David Inoue, Morning Consult

Americans need better control over the ways that internet companies collect and share our personal data. We also need a uniform, easily understood set of privacy protections over our online information that covers all aspects of the internet.

Abolish Billionaires
Farhad Manjoo, The New York Times

I cover technology, an industry that belches up a murder of new billionaires annually, and much of my career has required a deep anthropological inquiry into billionairedom.

When Amazon Went From Big to Unbelievably Big
Alexis C. Madrigal, The Atlantic

Amazon's origin story is firmly embedded in the chunky-sweatered dorkiness of the late-1990s dot-com boom. But the Amazon of today-the dominant, ubiquitous retailer of everything-is a much, much newer creation.

Roger McNamee on how to tame Big Tech
Roger McNamee, Financial Times

The next generation of technology devices, the so-called internet of things (IoT), is upon us. The value proposition is enticing.

Big Tech's (mostly) civil wars
Ina Fried, Axios

For a few moments last week it might have looked like the tech industry's very own World War III was breaking out, as Apple briefly kicked iPhone users who work at Facebook and Google off much of their own software as part of a privacy dispute.

Facebook must be more transparent on data

The Editorial Board, Financial Times

In the past few months, big technology companies have been trying hard to differentiate themselves from one another - and from the privacy scandals that have dogged Facebook in particular. The social media giant has come under fire most recently for blurring the lines between its own platform and those of Instagram and WhatsApp, which it acquired in 2012 and 2014 respectively.

Facebook Wants You to Have Privacy, Just Not From Facebook
Sarah Frier, Bloomberg

Facebook Inc., which turned 15 on Feb. 4, spent the past year peppering you with apologias and promises about protecting your personal data from others. The company wants you to know that it doesn't sell your data to advertisers, per se, and that you can limit data sharing with some other apps.

Research Reports

Code of Conduct on countering illegal hate speech online
Vera Jourová, European Commission

The fourth evaluation on the *Code of Conduct on Countering Illegal Hate Speech Online* confirms continuous progress on the swift removal of illegal hate speech. While the fight against hate speech needs to continue and be further strengthened, the Code is delivering on its key commitments. It proves to be an effective tool to face this challenge.

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